

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Fall Term of 2018**

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**GENERAL SUBJECT:  
THE CENTRAL VISION**

Message Five

**The Triune God Being Life to Us by Shining in Our Hearts**

Scripture Reading: 2 Cor. 4:4, 6-7; 3:18; Matt. 16:28; 17:2; Rev. 22:4a, 5b; 21:23

- I. “We have this treasure in earthen vessels” (2 Cor. 4:7); God’s shining in our hearts brings into us a treasure, the Christ of glory, who is the embodiment of the Triune God to be our life and everything.**
- II. “In whom the god of this age has blinded the thoughts of the unbelievers that the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine on them”—v. 4:**
  - A. Christ as the image of God is the effulgence of His glory; hence, the gospel of Christ is the gospel of His glory that illuminates, radiates, and shines in our hearts—Heb. 1:3; 2 Cor. 4:6.
  - B. By dispensing God’s life and nature in Christ into God’s chosen people, the gospel of the glory of Christ shines forth God’s glory, in which God is blessed among His people—1:3; Eph. 1:3, 6, 12, 14.
- III. “The God who said, Out of darkness light shall shine, is the One who shined in our hearts to illuminate the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ”—2 Cor. 4:6:**
  - A. God’s shining in our hearts results in the illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, that is, in the enlightenment that causes us to know the glory of God in the gospel of Christ—vv. 4, 6.
  - B. The illumination of the knowledge of the glory of God is in the face of Jesus Christ; this indicates that the gospel of the glory of Christ is a lovely person on whose face we can see the glory of God—vv. 4, 6; Matt. 17:2.
  - C. The glory of God manifested in the face of Jesus Christ is the God of glory expressed through Jesus Christ, who is the effulgence of the glory of God; to know Him is to know the God of glory—Acts 7:2; Heb. 1:3.
  - D. The more God shines in our hearts, the more we will shine on others so that they may have the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, that is, the knowledge of Christ, who expresses and declares God; the gospel of the glory of Christ first shines into us, and then it shines out from within us—John 1:18; Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15.
- IV. “We have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us”—2 Cor. 4:7:**

- A. Through the illumination of the gospel of the glory of Christ, the Christ of glory as the excellent treasure is received by the believers; now the shining reality of Christ, the embodiment and expression of the Triune God, is the treasure within us—vv. 6-7.
  - B. God's shining, which is God's dispensing, in our hearts brings into us a treasure, the all-inclusive Christ, who is the embodiment of the Triune God as the life-giving Spirit to be our life and everything—vv. 4, 6-7; Col. 2:9; 3:4, 11; 1 Cor. 15:45b:
    - 1. This priceless treasure, the indwelling Christ, is the divine source of the supply for the Christian life—Phil. 4:13; 2 Cor. 13:5; 4:7.
    - 2. This priceless treasure has made the earthen vessels ministers of the new covenant with a priceless ministry; this is by the divine power in resurrection; the excellency of this power is surely of God and not out of us—3:6; 1:9; 4:7.
- V. “We all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit”—3:18:**
- A. To behold the glory of the Lord is to see the Lord ourselves; to reflect the glory of the Lord is to enable others to see Him through us.
  - B. The glory of the Lord is the glory of the resurrected and ascended Christ, who is the life-giving Spirit dwelling in us to make Himself and all that He has accomplished, attained, and obtained real to us so that we may be one with Him and be transformed into the same image as the Lord from glory to glory; in this way He is making us the same as He is—Luke 24:46; Heb. 2:9; 2 Cor. 3:18; Rom. 8:29.
  - C. This is an ongoing process in life and in resurrection—2 Cor. 3:18.
- VI. “There are some of those standing here who shall...see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom...He was transfigured before them, and His face shone like the sun”—Matt. 16:28; 17:2:**
- A. For the Lord Jesus to be transfigured meant that His humanity was saturated and permeated with His divinity; this transfiguration, which was His glorification, was equal to His coming in His kingdom—v. 2:
    - 1. The Lord's word in 16:28 about the Son of Man coming in His kingdom was fulfilled by His transfiguration on the mountain in 17:2.
    - 2. The transfiguration, the shining, of the Lord Jesus was His coming in His kingdom; where His transfiguration is, there is the coming of the kingdom—16:28—17:13; Luke 9:27-36.
  - B. The kingdom is the shining of the reality of the Lord Jesus; to be under His shining is to be in the kingdom—Rev. 22:4-5.
  - C. When Christ is transfigured within us, that transfiguration becomes the kingdom of God ruling over everything in our life—Col. 1:12-13.
- VII. “They will see His face...The Lord God will shine upon them”—Rev. 22:4a, 5b:**
- A. To see the face of God and of the Lamb will be a blessing of the Triune God enjoyed by God's redeemed in eternity—v. 4a.
  - B. God Himself in the Lamb will shine on us, and we will live forever under His glorious illumination—v. 5b; 21:23.